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ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography provides information on important resources on firearm injuries. It is divided into two sections: (1) New Resources, including journal articles (28 titles), reports and books (15 titles), other resources (13 titles), and popular press (3 titles); and (2) Classics, including journal articles (10 titles), reports and books (6 titles), other resources (1 title) and popular press (1 title). (MES)

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ED 372 754

# Alert!

New Resources for Preventing Injury and Violence

# Focus on Firearms

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National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health
MCHB
Maternal and Child Health Bureau

Children's Safety Network

Children's Safety Network
National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health
2000 15th Street North, Suite 701, Arlington, VA 22201-2617
(703) 524-7802, fax (703) 524-9335



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CSN provides technical assistance in developing programs to reduce unintentional injuries and violence.

*CSN staff contributing to Biblio Alert!:* Laurie Duker, M.P.P.M., Erich Daub, Leona Gill, and Esha Bhatia, M.A.
Graphic design by Robin Landis.

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(703) 524-7802
(703) 524-9335 fax

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*Welcome to the first edition of Biblio Alert!, a publication designed to inform you about important new resources on various injury and violence prevention topics. This issue focuses on firearm injuries and is divided into two sections: New Resources and Classics.*

***Questions or comments?*** *The next Biblio Alert! will focus on alcohol and injury. If you have suggestions about materials to include and/or questions or comments about this Biblio Alert!, please contact the Children's Safety Network Injury and Violence Prevention Resource Center, National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health, 2000 15th Street North, Suite 701, Arlington, VA 22201-2617. Telephone (703) 524-7802/Fax (703) 524-9335.*

# NEW RESOURCES

## Journal Articles

American Academy of Pediatrics, Committee on Adolescence. (1992). Firearms and adolescents. *Pediatrics* 89(4): 784–787.

Identifies major issues and proposes specific intervention and prevention strategies for pediatricians and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

American Academy of Pediatrics, Committee on Injury and Poison Prevention. (1992). Firearm injuries affecting the pediatric population. *Pediatrics* 89(4): 788–790.

Proposes prevention strategies in the areas of firearm design, regulations, product liability actions, public and parent education, and legislation.

American Medical Association, Council on Scientific Affairs. (1992). Assault weapons as a public health hazard in the United States. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 267(22): 3067–3070.

Reviews current knowledge about the impact of assault weapons on public health and discusses legislation to restrict the sale and private ownership of these weapons.

Brent, D. A., Perper, J. A., Allman, C. J., Moritz, G. M., Wartella, M. E., and Zelenak, J. P. (1991). The presence and accessibility of firearms in the homes of adolescent suicides: A case-control study. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 266(21): 2989–2995.

Demonstrates that the presence of firearms in the home is associated with an increased risk of adolescent suicide. Concludes that physicians should recommend that firearms be removed from the homes of at-risk adolescents.

Callahan, C. M., and Rivara, F. P. (1992). Urban high school youth and handguns: A school based survey. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 267(22): 3038–3042.

Documents self-reported handgun access and ownership among high school students in Seattle, Washington.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (1991). Weapon-carrying among high school students—United States, 1990. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 40(40): 681–684.

Describes self-reported weapon-carrying among U. S. high school students in grades 9–12 in 1990. Suggests several considerations for the design of programs to reduce the incidence of weapon-carrying and prevent weapon-related deaths and injuries, such as targeting frequent weapon-carriers and their families and peers, helping parents reduce their children's access to weapons, and instituting legal sanctions.

Christoffel, K. K. (1991). Toward reducing pediatric injuries from firearms: Charting a legislative and regulatory course. *Pediatrics* 88(2): 294–305.

Presents pros and cons of 17 possible approaches, ranging from mandatory safety courses in schools to handgun bans.

Cotton, P. (1992). Gun-associated violence increasingly viewed as public health challenge. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 267(9): 1171–1174.

Examines the current medical/public health approach to gun-associated violence.

Dougherty, D., Eden, J., Kemp, K. B., Metcalf, K., Rowe, K., Ruby, G., Strobel, P., and Solarz, A. (1992). Adolescent health: A report to the U.S. Congress. *Journal of School Health* 62(5): 167–174.

Reports findings from an assessment by the U.S. Congress' Office of Technology Assessment. Includes a recommendation that Congress limit adolescents' access to firearms in order to improve their social environments.

Fingerhut, L., Ingram, D. D., and Feldman, J. J. (1992). Firearm and non-firearm homicide among persons 15 through 19 years of age: Differences by level of urbanization, United States, 1979 through 1989. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 267(22): 3048–3053.

Compares rates of firearm- and nonfirearm-homicide among adolescents ages 15–19 in metropolitan and non-metropolitan counties.

Fingerhut, L., Ingram D. D., and Feldman, J. J. (1992). Firearm homicide among black teenage males in metropolitan counties: Comparison of death rates in two periods, 1983 through 1985 and 1987 through 1989. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 267(22): 3054–3058.

Identifies counties with significantly high or low firearm homicide rates among black males ages 15–19 during 1983–1985 and 1987–1989. Also identifies counties with significant increases in the firearm homicide death rate between these two time periods.

Forum on Youth Violence in Minority Communities: Setting the Agenda for Prevention. (1991). Report of the working group on weapons and minority youth violence. *Public Health Reports* 106(3): 254–258.

Suggests priority areas for intervention at the community level, including developing community consensus on the use and possession of weapons; modifying the environment to reduce opportunities for weapon-associated violence; requiring firearm safety courses; banning the manufacture, sale,

and importation of certain types of weapons; educating the community about product liability litigation against gun manufacturers; and improving enforcement of laws against illegal gun trafficking. Also recommends priority areas for evaluation research.

Horwitz, J. (1991). Strict liability. *American Bar Association Journal* July: 36.

Examines the pros and cons of making assault weapons manufacturers liable for gun injuries.

Kellermann, A. L., Lee, R., Mercy, J. A., and Banton, J. (1991). The epidemiologic basis for the prevention of firearm injuries. *Annual Review of Public Health* 12: 17–40.

Summarizes the epidemiology of firearm-associated injuries and describes the magnitude of firearm injury in the United States as a public health issue. Suggests prevention strategies and a research agenda for establishing a scientific basis for prevention.

Kellermann, A. L., Rivara, F. P., Somes, G., Reay, D. T., Francisco, J., Banton, J. G., Prodzinski, J., Fligner, C., and Hackman, B. B. (1992). Suicide in the home in relation to gun ownership. *New England Journal of Medicine* 327(7): 467–472.

Shows that the presence of guns in the home is associated with an increased risk of suicide.

Koop, C. E., and Lundberg, G. D. (1992). Violence in America: A public health emergency. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 267(22): 3075–3076.

Reiterates the need for a public health/medical approach to the problem of violence in the United States and makes three key recommendations for action. Also compares the responsibilities associated with owning and using a firearm to those associated with owning and operating a motor vehicle, arguing that, like drivers, owners and operators of firearms should be required to meet specific criteria regarding age, mental condition, demonstrable knowledge, and skill; should be monitored; and should forfeit the right to own or operate the firearm if they do not meet all these conditions.

Lofton, C., McDowall, D., Wiersema, B., and Cottey, T. J. (1991). Effects of restrictive licensing of handguns on homicide and suicide in the District of Columbia. *New England Journal of Medicine* 325(23): 1615–1620.

Evaluation of District of Columbia law banning the purchase, sale, transfer, or possession of handguns by civilians. Suggests that, on average, 47 deaths have been prevented each year since implementation of the law.

O'Carroll, P. W., Loftin, C., Waller, Jr., J. B., McDowall, D., Bukoff, A., Scott, R. O., Mercy, J. A., and Weirsema, B. (1991). Preventing homicide: An evaluation of the efficacy of a Detroit gun ordinance. *American Journal of Public Health* 81(5): 576–581.

Evaluation of a Detroit ordinance requiring mandatory jail sentences for anyone convicted of illegally carrying a firearm in public. Suggests that strict enforcement is required in order for such ordinances to have the desired effect.

Price, J. H., Desmond, S. M., and Smith, D. (1991). A preliminary investigation of inner city adolescents' perceptions of guns. *Journal of School Health* 61(6): 255–259.

Describes significant differences between African-American and white adolescents and between males and females regarding their perceptions about gun safety, gun control, and the consequences of gun use.

Price, J. H., Merrill, E. A., and Clause, M. E. (1992). The depiction of guns on prime-time television. *Journal of School Health* 62(1): 15–18.

Analyzes the portrayal of guns during two weeks of regular prime-time programming on four major networks.

Saltzman, L. E., Mercy J. A., O'Carroll, P. W., Rosenberg, M. L., and Rhodes, P.H. (1992). Weapon involvement and injury outcomes in family and intimate assaults. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 267(22): 3043–3047.

Compares the risk of death and non-fatal injury in family and intimate assaults involving firearms to those not involving firearms.

Sheley, J. F., McGee, Z. T., and Wright, J. D. (1992). Gun-related violence in and around inner-city schools. *American Journal of Diseases of Children* 146(6): 677–682.

Examines the degree to which inner-city high school students are victimized by gun-related violence or the threat of such violence.

Teret, S. P., Wintemute, G. J., and Beilienson, P. L. (1992). The firearm fatality reporting system: A proposal. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 267(22): 3073–3074.

Discusses the need for a firearm fatality reporting system patterned after the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS). Argues that uniform, reliable firearm fatality data are essential for the development of effective policy solutions to the gun violence problem and recommends specific information to be collected (e.g., make, model, and serial number of the weapon).

Webster, D. W., Champion, H. R., Gainer, P. S., and Sykes, L. (1992). Epidemiologic changes in gunshot wounds in Washington, DC, 1983–1990. *Archives of Surgery* 127: 694–698.

Analyzes temporal patterns in hospital gunshot wound admission rates and wound profiles (number and location) to provide a picture of a community's violence problem over time.

Webster, D. W., Chaulk, C. P., Teret, S. P., and Wintemute, G.J. (1991). Reducing firearm injuries. *Issues in Science and Technology* 7(3): 73–79.

Examines the relationship between gun availability and homicides, assaults, suicides, and personal protection. Argues that many injuries could be prevented by modifying the design of the firearms themselves; making gun manufacturers liable; passing laws that restrict the manufacture, sale, and possession of handguns; and giving authority over guns to an agency that is more focused on public safety than the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Webster, D. W., Wilson, M. E. H., Duggan, A. K., and Pakula, L. C. (1992). Parents' beliefs about preventing gun injuries to children. *Pediatrics* 89(5, Part 1): 908–914.

Discusses the results of surveys and focus groups conducted with parents of children treated by selected pediatricians in Maryland. Suggests that pediatricians will be most effective if they recommend passive interventions to parents (e.g., removing firearms from the home) as part of general injury prevention counseling.

Widome, M. D. (1991). Remembering as we look ahead: The three E's and firearm injuries. *Pediatrics* 88(2): 79–83.

Examines gun injuries in the context of the three E's: engineering, enforcement, and education. Argues that gun manufacturers should be subject to the same safety standards as other consumer products, but that any built-in safety must still be supplemented by interventions that modify the purchase, use, and storage of guns—i.e., education and enforcement.

Winokur, G., and Black, D. W. (1992). Suicide–what can be done? *New England Journal of Medicine* 327(7): 490–491.

Suggests that controlling individual access to firearms may be an important suicide prevention strategy.

## Reports and Books

Baker, S. P., O'Neill, B., Ginsburg, M. J., and Li, G. (1992). Firearms. In S. P. Baker et al, *The Injury Fact Book* (pp. 149–160). Second edition. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Reviews differences in firearm-related injuries by age, race, gender, geographic area, urban/rural residence, and per capita income. Also discusses historical trends and preventive measures.

Billings, J., and Teicholz, N. (1991). *The Costs of Criminal Violence in District of Columbia Hospitals.* Washington, DC: District of Columbia Hospital Association. 19 pp. *Contact:* District of Columbia Hospital Association, 1250 Eye Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005-3922. Telephone (202) 682-1581/Fax (202) 371-8151. One copy available at no charge.

A good model for cities trying to assess the cost of firearm injuries.

Fingerhut, L. A. (1993). Firearm mortality among children, youth and young adults 1–34 years of age, trends and current status: United States, 1985–90. *Advance Data from Vital and Health Statistics, No. 231.* Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics.

Emphasizes racial and gender differences in homicide and suicide associated with firearms among males ages 15–34.

Gerbner, G. (1993). *Violence in Cable-Originated Television Programs: A Report to the National Cable Television Association.* Washington, DC: National Cable Television Association, 1993. *Contact:* George Gerbner, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, 3620 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Telephone: (215) 898-7041. One copy available free.

Compares violence in programs shown on cable television to violence in broadcast network programming.

Makintubee, S. (Ed.). (1992). *Firearm-Related Mortality in the South Central United States 1985–1989.* Oklahoma City, OK: South Central Injury Control Network Executive Board. *Contact:* Oklahoma State Department of Health, Injury Epidemiology Division, 1000 NE 10th Street, P. O. Box 53551, Oklahoma City, OK 73152. Telephone (405) 271-3430/Fax (405) 271-5149. One copy available free.

Examines unintentional firearm-related mortality, firearm-related suicides, and firearm-related homicides in the south central United States and proposes educational/behavioral, technological/environmental, and legislative/regulatory prevention strategies.

McDowall, D., Loftin, C., and Wiersema, B. (1992). Preventive effects of mandatory sentencing laws for gun crimes. In American Statistical Association, *Proceedings of the 1991 Social Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association, August 18–22, 1991* (pp. 87–94). Atlanta: American Statistical Association. *Contact:* American Statistical Association, 1429 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3402. Telephone (703) 684-1221. Available for $54.00 including shipping.

Illustrates the effectiveness of mandatory sentencing laws for handgun crimes in six cities.

McDowall, D., and Wiersema, B. (1992). *The Incidence of Civilian Defensive Firearm Use.* Discussion paper #10. College Park, MD: Violence Research Group, Institute of Criminal Justice and Criminology, University of Maryland. *Contact:* Institute of Criminal Justice and Criminology, 2220 Samuel Lefrak Hall, College Park, MD 20742-8235. Telephone (301) 405-4735. One copy available free.

Compares the crime-related costs and benefits of private gun ownership.

Michigan Child Mortality Review Panel. (1991). *Violent Deaths to Children: A Growing Risk to Growing Up in Michigan.* Detroit, MI: Michigan Department of Public Health and Michigan Department of Social Services. 50 pp.

Example of a state report outlining the breadth of the violence epidemic and proposing a range of specific violence prevention interventions such as a tax on gun ammunition. A useful tool for consensus-building and raising public awareness through the media.

Reis, A., and Roth, J. A. (Eds.). (1993). *Understanding and Preventing Violence.* Washington, DC: National Academy Press.

Reviews research on patterns and characteristics of violent behavior in the United States. Proposes several intervention strategies that rely on existing laws to reduce firearm-related violence.

Rosenberg, M. L., and Fenley, M. A. (Eds.). (1991). *Violence in America: A Public Health Approach.* New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Lists national, state, and local data sources for assaultive violence along with risk factors and potential intervention strategies.

Schwartz, D. F. (Ed.). (1992). Children and violence. *Ross Roundtables on Critical Approaches to Common Pediatric Problems* 23. Columbus, OH: Ross Laboratories. 130 pp. *Contact:* Ross Laboratories, 625 Cleveland Avenue, Columbus, OH 43216. Telephone (614) 227-3333. Available for $3.50.

Explores the impact of violence on children and discusses promising interventions for pediatricians and other health professionals.

Sugarmann, J. (1992). *National Rifle Association: Money, Firepower & Fear.* Washington, DC: National Press Books. *Contact:* Josh Sugarmann, Violence Policy Center, 1300 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone 202/783-4071. Available for $19.95 plus shipping.

Examines the National Rifle Association's history and its current purpose, finances, political strategies, and political power.

Sugarmann, J., and Rand, K. (1992). *Putting Guns Back into Criminals' Hands: 100 Case Studies of Felons Granted Relief From Disability Under Federal Firearms Laws.* Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center. *Contact:* Josh Sugarmann, Violence Policy Center, 1300 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone (202) 783-4071. Available for $10.00.

Examines the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms program to help convicted felons legally regain the privilege of possessing firearms.

University of Iowa, Injury Prevention Research Center. (1992). *Firearm Injuries: A Public Health Approach.* Iowa City, IA: Injury Prevention Research Center, University of Iowa. *Contact:* James Merchant, Injury Prevention Research Center, University of Iowa, 100 Oakdale Campus, Number 126 AMRF, Iowa City, IA 52242. Telephone: (319) 335-4415/Fax (319) 335-4225. One copy available free.

Illustrates the severity of the firearm injury problem and emphasizes the need for a public health response. Recommends intervention strategies that include surveillance, legislative priorities, and education/communication.

Violence Policy Center. (1992). *More Gun Dealers than Gas Stations: A Study of Federally Licensed Firearms Dealers in America.* Washington, DC: Violence Policy Center. *Contact:* Violence Policy Center, 1300 N Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone (202) 783-4071. Available for $20.00.

Examines how federal firearms license holders play a role in the flow of firearms in the United States and offers proposals to assist state and local governments and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) in improving the regulation of firearms distribution. Also examines problems associated with the way ATF issues and regulates federal firearms licenses.

## Other Resources

Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. (1991). *Facts about Teen Suicide and Handguns* (English/Spanish). Washington, DC: Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. 1 p. *Contact:* Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, 1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone (202) 289-7319/Fax (202) 408-1851. Available at no charge.

Documents the problem of suicide and handguns among youths ages 15–24, emphasizing the increasing rate and changing demographics of adolescent suicide and the relationship between alcohol, suicide, and guns.

Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. (1991). *The Gun-Violence-Free Generation Program: A National Model Designed to Reduce Gun Injuries and Deaths Among Children and Teens—For Preschool Through Grade Twelve.* Washington, DC: Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. 193 pp. *Contact:* Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, 1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1150, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone (202) 289-7319/Fax (202) 408-1851. Available at no charge.

Provides guidelines for teaching preschool through twelfth grade children about preventing gun violence. Includes suggested fiction and non-fiction readings for students and a directory of violence prevention programs and organizations.

Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. (1992). *Los Ninos y Las Pistolas* (Spanish). Washington, DC: Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. 1 p. *Contact:* Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, 1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone (202) 289-7319/Fax (202) 408-1851. Available at no charge.

Emphasizes the safe handling and storage of guns to prevent childhood firearm injuries.

Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. (1992). *Student Safety Alert* (English/Spanish). Washington, DC: Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. 1 p. *Contact:* Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, 1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone (202) 289-7319/Fax (202) 408-1851. Available at no charge.

Urges parents to protect their children from gun injuries by storing firearms safely and by talking to their children about the differences between television violence and real violence.

Center to Prevent Handgun Violence and the American Academy of Pediatrics. (1991). *Childhood Firearm Injury Prevention Program.* Washington, DC: Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. *Contact:* Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, 1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1150, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone (202) 289-7319/Fax (202) 408-1851.

Patient education materials to assist pediatricians in counseling parents about firearm injuries.

Children's Safety Network. (1991). *A Data Book of Child and Adolescent Injury.* Washington, DC: National Center for Education in Maternal and Child Health. 69 pp., 41 slides. *Contact:* National Maternal and Child Health Clearinghouse, 8201 Greensboro Drive, Suite 600, McLean, VA 22102. Telephone (703) 821-8955, ext. 254/Fax (703) 821-2098. Book available at no charge, slides available for $30.

Includes 1991 estimate of the number of guns in the Unites States and uses 1988 data to compare firearm and non-firearm homicides and suicides by age, gender, and race.

Coalition to Stop Gun Violence. (1992). *Handgun Fact Sheet.* Washington, DC: Coalition to Stop Gun Violence. 2 pp. *Contact:* Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002. Telephone (202) 544-7190/Fax (202) 544-7213. One copy available free.

Lists facts about handgun-related homicides and handgun ownership and purchases. Compares the United States to other industrialized nations and lists legislative solutions to the problem of handgun violence.

Handgun Control, Inc. (1992). *God Bless America* (poster). Washington, DC: Handgun Control, Inc. *Contact:* Handgun Control, Inc., 1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone (202) 898-0792. One copy available free.

Compares the number of handgun-related deaths in the United States in 1990 to deaths in six other countries.

Monterey County Health Department, Violence and Injury Prevention Program. (1991). *Store Guns Properly* (English/Spanish). Salinas, CA: Monterey County Health Department. 1 p. *Contact:* for more information call (408) 755-4583.

Provides tips for parents on educating children about firearm safety and on storing guns safely.

Monterey County Health Department, Violence and Injury Prevention Program. (1991). *Store Your Firearms Safely* (English/Spanish). Salinas, CA: Monterey County Health Department. *Contact:* for more information call (408) 755-4583.

Coupon entitles bearer to purchase a trigger lock at a discount rate of 25% (only in Monterey County, CA) and illustrates how a trigger lock can help prevent unintentional firearm injuries.

Rise High Projects, Inc. (1993). *Stop the Violence* (posters). Chicago, IL: Rise High Projects, Inc. *Contact:* Rise High Projects, Inc., 3712 N. Broadway, Box 329, Chicago, IL 60613-4105. Telephone (312) 528-4320. Prices vary according to quantity ordered; call for information.

Sample themes include: "Real men don't play with guns," "Let pride be your weapon," and "Carry your peace."

Taupier, J. (1993). *Identification and Prevention of Acquaintance Violence Among Young Patients: A Protocol for Health Providers.* Boston, MA: Violence Prevention Project, Department of Health and Hospitals of the City of Boston, and Education Development Center, Inc. *Contact:* JoAnne Taupier, Violence Prevention Project, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02118. Telephone (617) 534-5196. Available for $15.00.

Training tool for helping health care workers become more comfortable and effective when raising violence, firearm, and personal safety issues with adolescents. Reviews prevention opportunities in clinical settings.

Trauma Foundation. (1991). *An Advocate's Guide to the Cost of Injury in the United States.* San Francisco, CA: Trauma Foundation. *Contact:* Trauma Foundation, San Francisco General Hospital, Building One, Room 306, San Francisco, CA 94110. Telephone (415) 821-8209. Available for $95.00.

Includes slides presenting information on the economic consequences of fatal and non-fatal firearm injuries from *Cost of Injury in the United States: A Report to Congress, 1989.*

## Popular Press

Beard, M. K. (1993). Gun control: The Virginia model. *The Washington Post,* March 3.

Discusses Virginia's successful effort to pass gun control legislation, gun control legislation currently before the U.S. Congress, and other possible interventions.

Cauchon, D. (1993). Poll: Owners favor gun laws. *USA Today,* March 17. *Contact:* Gallup Organization, Inc., Gallup Poll Research Library - L.S., P.O. Box 310, Princeton, NJ 08542. Telephone (609) 924-9600, ext. 252. Copies of the poll available for $5.00.

Summarizes findings of a poll comparing gun owners to non-owners in their views of gun control laws. Findings are also compared to results of earlier polls.

Larson, E. (1993). The Story of a Gun. *The Atlantic Monthly* 271(1): 48–78.

Uses the story of a 16-year-old male who was able to obtain a semi-automatic weapon in order to illustrate how gun dealers, manufacturers, marketers, and federal regulators contribute to the gun crisis in the United States.

## CLASSICS

### Journal Articles

American Medical Association, Council on Scientific Affairs. (1989). Firearms injuries and deaths: A critical public health issue. *Public Health Reports* 104(2): 111–120.

Examines the effectiveness of laws that control or discourage private ownership of guns, and the effectiveness of educational efforts to promote firearms safety.

Baker, S. P., Teret, S. P., and Dietz, P. E. (1980). Firearms and the public health. *Journal of Public Health Policy* 1: 224–229.

Demonstrates that the increasing availability of, and the lack of adequate legislative restrictions for, firearms contribute to an increase in firearm-related injuries. Discusses intervention strategies such as handgun control laws and bullet-proof garments for persons working in high-risk occupations.

Fife, D., and Abrams, W. R. (1989). Firearms' decreased role in New Jersey homicides after a mandatory sentencing law. *Journal of Trauma* 29(110): 1548–1551.

Examines effects of a mandatory sentencing law on firearm-related homicides.

Fingerhut, L. A., and Kleinman, J. C. (1990). International and interstate comparisons of homicide among young males. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 263(24): 3292–3295.

Compares the homicide rate for males ages 15–24 in the United States with the rates for 21 other developed countries and discusses the geographic variation in homicide rates within the United States. Argues that plans to reduce the U. S. homicide rate must incorporate a focus on promoting non-violent conflict resolution and on controlling the availability of handguns.

Kellermann, A. L., and Reay, D. T. (1986). Protection or peril? An analysis of firearm-related deaths in the home. *New England Journal of Medicine* 314(24): 1557–1560.

Suggests that the presence of a firearm in the home is much more likely to be associated with suicide and criminal homicide than with self-protection homicides.

Martin, M. J., Hunt, T. K., and Hulley, S. B. (1988). The cost of hospitalization for firearm injuries. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 260(20): 3048–3050.

Uses hospital records for patients admitted to San Francisco General Hospital in 1984 for firearm injuries to determine both the costs and sources of payment for these injuries.

Sloan, J. H., Kellermann, A. L., Reay, D. T., Ferris, J. A., Koepsell, T., Rivara, F. P., Rice, C., Gray, L., and LoGerfo, J. (1988). Handgun regulations, crime, assaults and homicide: A tale of two cities. *New England Journal of Medicine* 319(19): 1256–1262.

Suggests that restricting access to handguns may reduce the rate of homicide in a community.

Sloan, J. H., Rivara, F. P., Reay, D. T., Ferris, J. A., and Kellermann, A. L. (1990). Firearm regulations and rates of suicide: A comparison of two metropolitan areas. *New England Journal of Medicine* 322(6): 369–373.

Suggests that legislation restricting access to handguns may not reduce the overall suicide rate in a community but may help to reduce the suicide rate in persons ages 15–24.

Teret, S. P., Alexander, G. R., and Bailey, L. A. (1990). The passage of Maryland's gun law: Data and advocacy for injury prevention. *Journal of Public Health Policy* 11(1): 26–38.

Reviews the activities involved in creating recognition of homicide as a public health issue and in ultimately defeating a referendum to repeal Maryland's innovative gun control legislation.

Wintemute, G. J., Teret, S. P., Kraus, J. F., and Wright, M. W. (1988). The choice of weapons in firearm suicides. *American Journal of Public Health* 78(7): 824–826.

Examines firearm-associated suicides in Sacramento County, California, from 1983 to 1985.

## Reports and Books

American Academy of Pediatrics. (1990). *Report of a Forum on Firearms and Children.* Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics. 144 pp. *Contact:* American Academy of Pediatrics, 141 Northwest Point Boulevard, P.O. Box 927, Elk Grove Village, IL 60009-0927. Telephone (800) 433-9016/Fax (708) 228-1281. One copy available free.

Describes a plan to end firearm violence to children by incorporating education, community action, legislation, regulation, and research.

Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. (1990). *Caught in the Crossfire: A Report on Gun Violence in Our Nation's Schools.* Washington, DC: Center to Prevent Handgun Violence. 8 pp. *Contact:* Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, 1225 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005. Telephone (202) 289-7319/Fax (202) 408-1851. One copy available at no charge.

Provides data on gun violence occurring in and around elementary, junior high, and high schools from 1986 to 1990.

Gerbner, G., and Signorielli, N. (1990). *Violence Profile 1967 Through 1988–89: Enduring Patterns.* Philadelphia, PA: The Annenberg School of Communications, University of Pennsylvania.

Examines the frequency and rate of violent representations in network television dramas between 1967 and 1988–89, and the consequences of exposure to them.

LaCerva, V. (1990). *Let Peace Begin With Us: The Problem of Violence in New Mexico.* Santa Fe, NM: New Mexico Health and Environment Department. 153 pp. *Contact:* Victor LaCerva, M.D., F.A.A.P., Medical Director, Maternal and Child health Bureau, New Mexico Health and Environment Department, 1190 St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87504. Telephone (505) 827–2351. Available for loan and review from the New Mexico MCHB or from Children's Safety Network, (703) 524-7802.

A model for the presentation of county-by-county information on a range of violence issues. Includes a list of 15 questions to help practitioners assess their community with respect to violence prevention activities.

National Committee for Injury Prevention and Control. (1989). Firearm injuries. In National Committee for Injury Prevention and Control, *Injury Prevention: Meeting the Challenge* (pp. 261–267). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Suggests interventions in the areas of research, prohibition of the purchase or possession of handguns, enforcement of existing firearms laws, restrictions on handguns, firearms modifications, and education.

Northrop, D., and Hamrick, K. (1990). *Weapons and Minority Youth Violence.* Newton, MA: Education Development Center, Inc. *Contact:* Education Development Center, Inc., 55 Chapel Street, Newton, MA 02160. Telephone (617) 969-7100. One copy available free.

Reviews existing prevention strategies for preventing firearm violence including educational/behavioral, legal, and technological/environmental interventions, and discusses other potential strategies.

## Other Resources

Education Development Center, Inc., and Johns Hopkins Injury Prevention Center. (1990). *Educating Professionals in Injury Control (EPIC): Firearm Injuries.* Newton, MA: Education Development Center, Inc. 55 pp. *Contact:* Education Development Center, Inc., 55 Chapel Street, Newton, MA 02160. Telephone (617) 969-7100. Slides and instruction module available for $125.00; slides only available for $80.00.

Presents the public health approach to firearm injury prevention, the magnitude and cost of the problem, the epidemiology of fatal and non-fatal firearm injuries, and strategies for prevention.

## Popular Press

Time Magazine, Inc. (1989). Seven Deadly Days. *Time,* July 17.

Uses photographs of the 464 people who died in the United States in just one week in 1989 in order to illustrate the impact of gun violence. A model for illustrating the impact of violence on a particular community.

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